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MOHAMMEDAN COINS.

THE following article on Mohammedan Coins was contributed to the *London Antiquary*, by Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole, B. A., M. R. A. S. So little comparatively is known on this branch of Oriental Numismatics, that we believe the readers of the *Journal* will welcome its transfer to our pages, coming as it does from so high an authority.

IN the study of Greek coins we are unceasingly fascinated by their artistic excellence and the lights they throw on the mythology of the most interesting people of antiquity. Roman and mediaeval coins have their importance in showing us the source of our monetary system, and possess an added charm in the many historical associations they awake, though they seldom increase our actual knowledge of history. English coins we study because we like to know what our ancestors bartered their souls for. None of these attractions belong to Mohammedan coins. Art we should scarcely look for, since we all know that the blessed Prophet declared that "every painter is in hell-fire," and straitly forbade the making of "statues" (by which he probably meant idols) and images of living things, on pain of the artist being compelled to put a soul into his creation on the Day of Judgment. Hence true believers have always been very cautious of representing human or even animal forms as an aid to decoration, and we shall find that it is only when barbarous Tartars or heretical Persians enter the field that figures of living things appear in the art of Mohammedan countries, and then very rarely upon their coins. The Eastern draughtsman, being debarred from the most fruitful of artistic materials, took refuge in the elaboration of those beautiful arabesque designs and geometrical patterns which are so characteristic of so-called Arabian work, and even turned the natural grace of the Arabic writing to account as an element in decoration. Thus, on coins, as in mosques, we find the Kufy character used as a thing of beauty and disposed to the best advantage, where a European artist would have relegated the letters to an obscure corner and devoted all his space to the head or other figure that occupied the face of the coin. It was a matter of necessity rather than of choice, but it had a good effect in developing the graceful and little cultivated art of calligraphy.

Nor must we expect any very interesting metrological data to be derived from Mohammedan coins. Their metrology, so far as it is known, is borrowed

—like most other so-called Arabian things, whether philosophical, artistic, literary, or even religious—from the more cultivated nations the Muslims conquered, and the subject still rests in deep obscurity, chiefly because no one, except the indefatigable M. Sauvaire, has had the patience to work so dreary a vein. Historical associations it were vain to call up at the sight of a Muslim coin, since the great majority of even well-educated and reading folk are profoundly ignorant of everything oriental, except what is Biblical or Japanese. There are, perhaps, three or four Mohammedan celebrities known by name to a fair proportion of ordinary readers. "The good Haroun Al-Raschid" owes his popularity to the *Arabian Nights* and Mr. Tennyson, and coins bearing his name together with that of the ill-fated Vizir Jaafar, of which there are many examples in the British Museum and every other large collection, might touch a chord of remembrance; while a piece issued by the famous Saladin, though in itself uninteresting, carries upon its surface a long train of Crusading associations for the historical student. The currency of the great fighting Sultans of Turkey, the Amuraths and Mahomets, the Selims and Solimans—to adopt the barbarous kakography of Western writers—has its memories, and so have the large gold pieces, with their uncompromising declaration of faith, issued by "Boabdil" and the other heroes of the dying kingdom of the Moors in Spain. To a very few the solitary piece of gold struck by the Mameluke Queen, Shejer ed-Durr (which, being interpreted, means Tree of Pearls) may recall the fact that it was this apparently fascinating but not quite irreproachable lady who first made the pilgrimage to Mekka in the palanquin or mahmal which has ever since been a notable feature of the departure of the pilgrims from Cairo.*

The coin in question is a good example of the rich genealogical material to be extracted from an Arabic half-guinea. On one side, in the margin, is the profession of faith, testifying to the striker's belief that "there is no God but God, and that Mohammed is His Prophet,"—a formula which appears on the majority of Mohammedan coins, often accompanied by other expressions of religious orthodoxy, and by sentences from the Koran. This very marginal inscription goes on to tell, in the words of the Koran, how God "sent Mohammed with the guidance and religion of truth, so that he might make it triumph over all other creeds." Encircled by these pious words, the field shows a long string of titles, all belonging to Queen Shejer ed-Durr, from which a sort of outline of her life may be constructed. In the first place she is called El-Mustaasimiyeh, which means that she was once a slave-girl of the 'Abbasy Khalif El-Mustaasim. Her next title is Es-Salihiyeh, showing that she was transferred from the Khalif's harim to that of Es-Salih, the grand-nephew of Saladin, who had succeeded to the kingship of Egypt after the deaths of his grand-uncle, grandfather (the scarcely less famous El-'Adil), and father. Further, this coin gives her the title of "Queen of the Muslims," and "Mother of Khalil," a son who, we know from the historians, ought to have reigned, but never did, in consequence of his mother's marriage with the Emir Ezbek, who himself ascended the throne, the first of the renowned Mameluke Sultans. On the other side are the name and titles of the reigning

* The "Mahmal" is a rich velvet canopy, borne by a gaily caparisoned camel, and was originally intended as the travelling seat of the wives of the Caliphs who went on the pilgrimage which started to visit the tomb of the Prophet at Mecca, leaving Cairo, we believe, not long after the Mohammedan fast of Ramadan.—ED.

'Abbasy Khalif, El-Mustaasim, the queen's former husband, round which is arranged a marginal inscription which records how, "in the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful," the coin was struck at Cairo in the year of the Hjireh 648.

In the wealth of information afforded by this coin, we see the real value of Mohammedan numismatics. The coins of the Muslim East do not so much recall history as make it. The student is constantly meeting with a perfectly unknown king or even dynasty, which fills up a gap in the annals of the East. A Mohammedan coin generally gives not only the date and place of issue, and the name of the ruler who caused it to be struck,* but frequently the names of his father, and grandfather, his heir-apparent, his liege-lord, and other valuable genealogical data, and aids to the due understanding of the inter-relations of different dynasties; while the religious formulae employed will enable one to tell the sect to which the ruler who issued the coin belonged, at least so far as the broad distinctions of Islam are concerned. If the complete series of coins issued by every Muslim state were preserved, we should be able to tabulate with the utmost nicety the entire line of kings and their principal vassals that have ruled in every part of the Mohammedan empire since the eighth century, and to draw with tolerable accuracy the boundaries of their territories at every period. Minting was ever one of the most cherished rights of sovereignty; the privileges of "Khutbeh and Sikkeh," that is, of being prayed for in the Friday prayers in the mosque and of inscribing his name upon the currency, were the first things the new king thought about on ascending the throne, and we may be confident that the right was exercised at the earliest possible opportunity, so that a prince who occupied the kingly office for but a few weeks was sure to celebrate his royalty on a coin. Shejer ed-Durr is a case in point, for the coin above described must have been struck in her brief reign of two months. It is this peculiarity of Eastern princes that makes their coinage so valuable to the historian, and indeed compels him to regard numismatic evidence as the surest he can obtain. Of course it may be urged that the facts thus derived from a study of coins are not worth having; they may be absolutely true, but they relate to persons and countries concerning which nobody has any possible interest, and even of these they tell only such meagre items as dates and chief towns, the very things we are now carefully expunging from our school-books! It may be said in reply, that like every currency, that of the Mohammedan East really supplies important evidence concerning the economic state of the country by its quality and rate of exchange. But we join issue on the main question, and venture to assert that no scrap of positive historical fact is really useless, or may not at some time be turned to important ends. The Mohammedan coinage, more than any other, abounds in historical data, and when the as yet unwritten history of the East during the Middle Ages comes to be told, the author will find no surer check upon the native annalists, than the coins.

* The Ottoman coinage does not always give the absolute date of issue, but it can readily be found from the piece; the obverse, as we are told by a gentleman many years a resident in the Turkish empire, usually bears the name of the Sultan, and the number of years he had reigned when the coin was struck; the reverse

has the name of the city, (in most cases Constantinople, the other mints having been closed,) and the date of his accession. Of course by a simple addition the date of striking can be found. The statement in the text is of course a general one, while our comment refers to the more recent Turkish coinage only.—ED.

If the history of the Mohammedan East were comprised in the annals of a few great dynasties, the value of the coins would not be so considerable, for we should only learn perhaps some fresh dates or confirmation of dates already known, and the mints would only be the capitals and large towns of well-known provinces. But Mohammedan history is made up of the struggles for supremacy of hundreds of petty houses, and thousands of petty dynasts, of whose very existence we should often be wholly ignorant but for their coins. These petty dynasts struck their money at towns of which next to nothing is often known, and thus the coinage is frequently our only means of establishing the position of the smaller towns of the mediaeval East. Sometimes these small towns preserve the names of cities famous in antiquity, but whose site, save for the numismatic evidence, was uncertain. Thus geographically as well as historically Mohammedan coins have a high value.

But it is time to give some idea of the nature and extent of the coinage. In the brief space necessarily allotted to so technical and obscure a subject, it is manifestly impossible to attempt more than the barest outline, and some of the more complicated branches of the subject, such as metrology and assay, must be set altogether aside. All we can do is to sketch in the barest outline the chief division of Mohammedan currency, and point out briefly the main characteristics and developments. The British Museum Catalogue in the first eight volumes contains descriptions of some six thousand coins issued by a hundred distinct dynasties, many of which numbered thirty or forty separate sovereigns. To trace even an outline of these and the peculiarities of their coinages is quite beyond the possibilities of the present article.

It took the Arabs half a century to discover the need of a separate coinage of their own. At first they were content to borrow their gold and copper currency from the Byzantine empire, which they had driven out of Syria, and their silver coins from the Sassanians, whom they had overthrown at the battles of Kadesia and Nehavend. The Byzantine gold served them till the seventy-sixth year of the Flight, when a new, but theologically unsound, and consequently evanescent type was invented, bearing the effigy of the reigning Khalif instead of that of Heraclius, and Arabic instead of Greek inscriptions (Fig. 1). So, too, the Sassanian silver pieces were left unaltered, save for the addition of a governor's name in Arabic letters. The Khalif 'Aly or one of his lieutenants seems to have attempted to inaugurate a purely Muslim coinage, exactly resembling that which was afterwards adopted, but only one example of this issue is known to exist, in the Paris collection, together with three other silver coins struck at Damascus and Marw between A. H. 60 and 70, of a precisely similar type. These four coins are clearly early and ephemeral attempts at the introduction of a distinctive Mohammedan coinage, and their discovery, which is an affair of quite recent times, in no way upsets the received Muslim tradition that it was the Khalif 'Abd-El-Melik who, in the year of the Flight 76 (or, on the evidence of the coins themselves, 77) inaugurated the regular Muslim coinage, which was thenceforward issued from all the mints of the empire so long as the dynasty endured, and which gave its general character to the whole currency of the kingdoms of Islam. The copper coinage founded on the Byzantine passed through more and earlier phases than the gold

and silver, but it always held so insignificant a place in the Muslim currency that we can afford to disregard it in the brief outline to which we are obliged to confine ourselves.

Specimens of Abd-El-Melik's reformed coinage are shown in the plate (Figs. 2 and 3). The gold and silver both bear the same formulae of faith; on the obverse, in the area, "There is no god but God alone, He hath no partner;" around which is arranged a marginal inscription, "Mohammed is the apostle of God, who sent him with the guidance and religion of truth, that he might make it triumph over all other religions in spite of the idolaters," the gold however stopping at "other religion." This inscription, however, occurs on the reverse of the silver instead of the obverse, while the date inscription which is found on the reverse of the gold, appears on the obverse of the silver. The reverse area declares that "God is One, God is the Eternal: He begetteth not, nor is begotten;" here the gold ends, but the silver continues "and there is none like unto Him." The margin of the gold runs, "In the name of God: this Dinar was struck in the year seven and seventy," the silver substituting "Dirhem" for dinar, and inserting the place of issue immediately after the word dirhem, in the case of Fig. 3, "El-Andalus, (*i. e.* Andalusia) in the year 116." The mint is not given on the early gold coins, probably because they were uniformly struck at the capital, Damascus. The contemporary copper coinage generally offers portions of the same formulae, with often the addition of the name of the governor of the province in which the coin is issued.

These original dinars (a name formed from the Roman denarius) and dirhems (drachma) of the Ommiade Khalifs formed the model of all Muslim coinages for many centuries, and their respective weights—65 and 43 grains—served as the standard of all subsequent issues up to comparatively recent times. The fineness was about .979 gold in the dinars, and .960 to .970 silver in the dirhems. The Mohammedan coinage was generally very pure. The 'Abbasy dinars retained the fineness of .979 for many centuries, and the same proportion of gold was observed in the issues of the Fatimy Khalifs, the Almohades, and sometimes of the Almoravides, but the last usually employed a lower *titre*. At first ten dirhems went to the dinar, but the relation varied from age to age.

The dynasty of Amawy or "Ommiade" Khalifs, to which Abd-El-Melik belonged, continued to issue their dinars and dirhems without any change until their overthrow at the hands of the Abbasis in the year 132, and even then one of the family fled to Spain, and there continued both the Amawy line and the Amawy coinage in the Khalifate of Cordova, which lasted three centuries. The Abbasy Khalifs, on succeeding to the eastern dominions of the Amawis, retained in all essential respects the coinage of their predecessors, substituting, however, for the formula of the reverse area, the words, "Mohammed is the apostle of God," thus repeating the beginning of the marginal inscription. They also inserted the name of the mint-city, on the gold as well as on the silver. Soon, moreover, the strict puritanism of the early Khalifs, which did not permit them to place their own names on the currency, gave way to the natural vanity of the ruler, and the names and titles of the 'Abbasy Khalifs are regularly inserted beneath the reverse area inscription, often accompanied by the names of their heir-apparent and grand-vizir. Thus, for

some two hundred and fifty years the universal coinage of the Muslim empire was of one simple and uniform type.

It is, however, with the sudden and general upspringing of small independent, or only nominally independent, dynasties in the fourth century of the Hjireh, the tenth of our era, that Muslim coins acquire their highest value. The history of the Khalifs has been carefully recorded, and their coins, though they confirm and sometimes give additional precision to the statements of the historians, do not greatly enlarge our knowledge. But when the Samanis in Transoxiana and Khorasan, the Saffaris in Scistan, the Buweyhis in various provinces of Persia, the Hamdanis in Syria (all adopting a predominantly silver coinage), and the Beny Tulun and Ikshidids in Egypt (who coined almost exclusively gold), and the Idrisis (silver) and Beny-l-Aghlab (gold) in North Africa, begin to strike coins after the model of those of the Khalifate, but abounding in names of local dynasts, the historical value of the coinage rises. These dynastic coins always retain the name of the reigning Khalif in the place of honor, and this conjunction of names of Khalif and dynast will often supply the required chronological position, in the absence or obliteration of a definite date. With the advent of the Seljuk Turks, who subdued the greater part of Persia, Syria, and Asia Minor, in the fifth century of the Hjireh, the coins acquire a special importance in deciding the difficult question of the territorial divisions of the various Seljuk lines; and the numerous dynasties of Atabegs or generals of the Seljuk armies, which sprang up as soon as the central power grew weak, possess a numismatic interest in their general adoption of Byzantine types on their large copper pieces. On the coins of the Urtukis, for example, a petty dynasty of some crusading fame that ruled a few fortresses in Mesopotamia, we meet with not only the figures of Byzantine emperors, but those of Christ and the Holy Virgin, with mangled inscriptions of Christian import! Figures of a similar character also appear on the coinage of the Ayyubise (Saladin's Kurdish House), and that of the Bengy Zengy of Mosil and Syria, together with the earliest known representation of the two-headed eagle. But this divergence from the established theory of Islam was only a temporary and exceptional phase, due to the irruption of foreign barbarians. The contemporary dynasties of Africa, the Fatimy Khalifs of Egypt, and the Almoravides and other Berber dynasties of West Africa and Spain, adhered strictly to the orthodox tradition which forbade the representation of living things, and this was all the more noteworthy inasmuch as most of these African dynasties belonged to heretical sects. A specimen of these western coinages is shown in the plate, Figs. 4-6,* in which the "miravedi" and "millaris" of mediaeval chronicles may be recognised. The square shape is peculiar to northwest Africa and Spain.

In the seventh century of the Flight—our thirteenth—the Muslim world was almost wholly in the possession of foreigners. The Mongols had overrun the eastern provinces, which had not yet recovered from the inroad of the Turks, and henceforward the monotonous (chiefly silver) currency, and bad, or at least irregular, standards of the various Mongol houses, the Ilkhans of Persia, the Jagatay family in Bokhara, the different branches of the House of Timur (Tamerlane), the Khans of Kipchak, of the Krim, etc.,

* As a matter of curiosity we may mention that Fig. 6 probably few of its readers were aware of. We have in the *Antiquary's* cut is printed upside down, which corrected it in our plate.—Ed.

disgust the student; till the fine issues of the Shahs of Persia and the Patans and Moguls of Delhi restore something like order and beauty to the chaos that, numismatically as well as historically—the two generally go together—succeeded the terrible swoop of Chinguiz Khan. Meanwhile the Mamelukes, in their two lines,—Turkish and Circassian,—held sway over the provinces of Egypt and Syria, and left many a noble monument of their love of art and culture behind them; but not in their coinage (mainly gold), which is perhaps the most debased in a debased age. Several Berber dynasties had established themselves in the Barbary States, and continued for some centuries to issue their large gold pieces, resembling the coin on the plate, Fig. 4. One of these, the line of Sherifs of Morocco, endures to the present day, but the Ottoman Turks extinguished the other two. This clan of Turks rose into power about the same time as the Mongols and Mamelukes. From one of ten petty dynasties that fattened upon the decay of the Seljuk kingdom of Anatolia, they became by the end of the eighth century of the Hjireh—our fourteenth—rulers of all Asia Minor and a slice of Europe, and the middle of the sixteenth century saw them possessed of an empire that stretched from Hungary to the Caspian, and from Baghdad to Algiers. The Ottoman currency at first consisted of small silver and copper pieces, bearing no very obvious relation, either in weight or style, to the old Seljuk or the older Khalifs' coinage, and for a long time they were content to use foreign gold. Mohammed II, the conqueror of Constantinople, was the first to strike gold coins, upon the model of the Venetian sequins, but of course with Arabic inscriptions. Various gold sequins or "altuns," small silver "akchehs," and copper "manghirs" constituted the Turkish currency up to the beginning of our seventeenth century, when a double standard of sequins and a perfectly new silver coinage, based upon the Dutch dollar, with numerous subdivisions and multiples, was introduced, and was ever after the subject of countless modifications and degradations, until, after an unsuccessful attempt at reform by the great Mahmud II, the modern Turkish series, approximating the monetary systems of Europe, was inaugurated by Sultan 'Abd-El-Mejid, and is hence known as the Mejidiyeh. A similar series, bearing the Sultan's but not the Viceroy's names, was and is in use in Egypt, and a third series, on a different basis, in Tunis.

The Turkish coinage as a whole is important in its relations with the Mediterranean currencies, and it has a certain bearing upon the history of trade in the Middle Ages. It has also a value in determining the limits of the Turkish empire at different periods, as the number of mints is very considerable. But its historical uses are insignificant, and it is therefore uninteresting to the student, whatever it may be to the collector.

For the true value of Mohammedan coins lies, as has been said, in their historical data. What is really wanted is a *Corpus* of Mohammedan numismatics, which should present, in well-arranged tables and indexes, the results of the coin-evidence of all the collections of Europe, and should place them at the service of historical students without compelling them to learn a difficult language and a still more difficult palaeography. There is little interest in Mohammedan coins apart from their aid to history, and if their actual contributions to historical knowledge were once summarised and tabulated, few but inveterate collectors would want to study them. I write after finishing

the eighth volume of my Catalogue of Oriental Coins in the British Museum, which has been going on for the last ten years, and I have no hesitation in saying that Oriental numismatics is a science which is interesting mainly in its results.

THE BALTIMORE COINAGE.

THE Archives of Maryland, (1636-69) give some account of early proceedings in reference to the Coinage of Lord Baltimore, from which we make the following extracts :—

Orders of the Councell of State,

Tuesday, 4th October, 1659.

Upon Information given by Richard Pight, Clerke of the Irons in the Mint, that Cecile Lord Baltamore and divers others with him, and for him, have made and transported great sums of money, and doe still goe on to make more.

Ordered, that a Warrant be issued forth to the said Richard Pight for the apprehending of the Lord Baltamore and such others as are suspected to be ingaged with him, in the said offence, and for the seizing of all such monys stamps, tooles and Instruments for coyning the same, as can be met with, and bring them in safe Custody to the Counsell.

At a Councell held at Bushwood Mr Slyes howse on Saturday the third of March 1659,

Then was read his Lordship letter directed to his Lieutant & Councell dated 12 of October, and directed to the Secretary touching the Mint as followeth viz.

After my hearty Commendations &c. Haueing with great paines and Charge procured Necessaries for a particular Coyne to be Currant in Maryland a Sample whereof in a peece of a Shilling a Six pence and a Groat I herewith send yow, I recommend it to yow to promote all yow can the dispersing it, and by Proclamation to make Currant within Maryland for all payments vpon Contracts or Causes happining or arising after a day to be by yow limited in the said Proclamation, and to procure an act of Assembly for the punishing of such as shall Counterfiet the said Coyne, or otherwise offend in that behalfe according to the forme of an Act recommended by me last yeare to my Governor and Secretary, or as neere it as yow can procure from the Assembly, and to giue me your advice next yeare touching what yow thinke it best to be further don in that matter touching Coyne, for if encouragement be giuen by the good success of it this yeare there wilbe abundance of adventurers in it next yeare. * * * * *

Your very Loueing friend

C Baltamore.

I sent a Sample of the Maryland money with directions for the procuring it to pass because I vnderstood by letters this yeare from the Governor and yow and others that there was no doubt but the people there would accept of it which if wee find they do, there wilbe meanes found to supply yow all there with money enough ; but though it would be a very great advantage to the

Colony, that it should pass Currant there, and an vtter discouragment for the future supply of any more, if there be not a Certaine establishment this yeare and assurance of its being vented and Currant there, yet it must not be imposed vpon the people but by a lawe there made by their Consent in a Gennerall assembly, which I pray faile not to signifie to the Governour and Councill there together from me by shewing them this letter from

To my most affectionat
loving brother Philip Calvert
Esq^r at St. Maryes in Maryland.

Your most affectionat
brother
C Baltemore.
London 12 October 1659.

COINAGE OF THE BRITISH ISLANDS.

BY C. F. KEARY, M.A., F.S.A.

[Concluded.]

WE have, in order to dismiss the history of copper coinage, advanced far beyond the period with which we had been dealing. Before we again return to it,—that is, to the English coinage immediately subsequent to the death of Elizabeth,—we will take one glance at the Scottish coinage during the intervening period between the accession of James IV—spoken of in our last paper—and that of James I.

The coinage of Scotland during this period follows the same general lines as the English currency, but in many respects it likewise shows clear traces of French influence. Such influence is most apparent in matters belonging to art. We have said that the first coins with portraits are some groats of James IV. These pieces are noticeable from the fact that the type of bust does not resemble the type on any English contemporary coin. It is a three-quarter face to left. James V at first struck groats nearly resembling those of Henry VII's later coinage; that is to say, having a crowned bust to right. The most artistically beautiful among the Scottish coins belong to this reign and the early part of the succeeding one—the reign of Mary. Nothing can be more artistic than the bonnet pieces of James V, a gold coin in weight $88\frac{1}{2}$ grains, midway between the English half sovereign and the angel, and having on the obverse the bust of the king wearing a square cap or bonnet; except perhaps the ryals of the early years of Mary's reign. The same influences which were at work bringing about an immense extension of the English coinage, are traceable, though in a less degree, between the reigns of James IV and James VI. A large number of gold coins was issued during these reigns. James IV struck *St. Andrews, riders*, and *unicorns*, with the divisions of these pieces; James V *ecus* and *bonnet-pieces*; Mary *ecus* or crowns, *twenty-shilling pieces*, *lions*, *ryals*, and *ducats*, with the divisions of most of these coins. The same queen struck silver ryals, a much larger coin than had been issued by any of her predecessors. Her other silver coins were the two-third and third ryal, and the testoon and half testoon.

We have said that the Scotch monarchs went far beyond the English both in degrading the title and in debasing the material of their money. No professedly *billon* coins were ever issued from the English mint; the Scottish had long established a currency in this base metal standing between silver and copper.* Moreover the Scottish penny had long fallen in value far below that of the English penny. The kings of Scotland made from time to time efforts to establish a currency which should be exchangeable with that of the neighboring country, and we find orders taken for the making of certain special denominations of money designed to serve this end. In 1483, for example, it was ordered that a rose noble should be struck of the fineness

* Among these billon pieces the *barabee* (corrupted from *bas piece*, in Scottish French) was the longest remembered, and is the most worthy of notice. The name

is expressive of the influences under which the base money was introduced into Scotland.

and weight of the English rose noble, and groats of the value of the English groat. The first of these designs was never carried into effect, but in 1489 a groat of the desired standard was coined. We find that it was equal to fourteen-pence Scottish, so that the Scottish penny was between a quarter and a third of the English coin. When James VI came to the English throne, however, the Scottish penny had sunk to be one-twelfth of the English.

James I of England and VI of Scotland had to maintain a double currency. In fact, the coinages of the two realms were not brought into uniformity until the reign of Anne, when the complete union was effected. For Scotland James struck in gold the *twenty-pound piece*, the ducat, the lion noble, the thistle noble, and the rider, before his accession to the English throne; and in silver, the *sword dollar*, the *thistle dollar*, and the *noble*, and the divisional parts of most of these coins, as well as pieces of two, four, five, eight, ten, sixteen, twenty, thirty, and forty shillings, as well as several billon pieces. After his accession, his peculiarly Scottish coins were the sword and sceptre piece, and the thistle mark.

The English coins of James were the sovereign and the double or rose ryal. These were during his reign generally current for thirty shillings. The type of the ryal was that of the sovereigns of Henry VII. The half of this was the spur ryal, which at first followed the old type of the rose nobles or ryals, but afterwards showed on one side a lion supporting the English shield (quartering Scotland and France), on the reverse the spur, or sun, as on the rose nobles. The angel showed some variety of type from that of the previous reign. But the most distinctive coin of James I, and that which superseded all the others, was the *unite* or *broad*, a piece of twenty shillings, and designed to pass current in both countries. The type was at first a half figure holding sword and orb; subsequently a bust, either crowned or laureate. This last type prevailed, and earned for the piece the name *laurel*, while the motto *FACIAM EOS IN GENTEM UNAM* was the origin of its older name. The laurel wreath had never appeared upon the head of any previous English monarch upon his coins. As it is commonly seen upon the bust of the Roman emperors on their money, it was most likely adopted by James with the object of proclaiming his imperial rank as king of England, Scotland, and Ireland; for we find that he also, for the first time, adopted the title *Imperator* upon some of his medals.

It is noticeable that in the reign of James I, we for the first time have the values of the coins given upon them. His thirty, fifteen, ten, and five-shilling pieces in gold, and his shillings, sixpences, half groats and pennies are marked with numerals expressing their value. The custom was continued in the reign of Charles I, and during the Commonwealth.

The variety of coin denominations reaches, as has been said, its maximum under Elizabeth. From the introduction of the *unite* this number begins rapidly to decline, so that in the reign of Charles I it almost reached the same simplicity which it now has. A comparison might, in truth, be instituted between the respective coinages of the Tudor and the Stuart dynasties and their respective literatures. The greatest artistic excellence belongs to the coinage (as to the literature) of the first era, while that of the second era stands next to it, and superior to anything which was subsequently produced. In the second class we find a marked tendency toward simplicity and adaptability to the ordinary needs of life.

Thus the silver coinage of the Stuarts is practically the same as that which now exists, with the exception that James I did not strike the smaller pieces, and that Charles I, in the midst of the civil war, struck some large coins which were never afterwards reproduced. The crowns and half crowns of James I represent the king on horseback, the shillings the crowned bust of the king, the ordinary shield (now without any appearance of a cross) forming the reverse in each case.

Charles I's usual gold coinage is the broad, half broad, and crown. These pieces have the king's bust on the obverse, and on the reverse a shield. His silver coins of higher denominations were like those of his father, and the lower denominations follow the type of the shilling. After the outbreak of the civil war, Charles adopted for the

reverse of his coins, both in gold and silver, what is called the Declaration type, namely the legend RELIG. PROT. LEG. ANG. LIBER. PAR. (The Protestant Religion, the Laws of England, and the Liberty of Parliament), written in two lines across the field of the reverse. Of this type he struck some pieces of three pounds, as well as large silver coins worth twenty and ten shillings, made out of the plate which was brought by his adherents to the royal mints.

Charles I established mints at a great number of towns during the civil war. Altogether we have coins struck during his reign at the following places:—Aberystwith, Bristol, Chester, Cork, Dublin, Edinburgh, Exeter, London, Newark, Oxford, Weymouth, Worcester, York. Beside the regular coinage, there was during the civil war a large issue of *siege pieces* struck in towns or castles which were in a state of siege. These are of Beeston Castle, Carlisle, Colchester, Newark, Pontefract and Scarborough. Some of the Pontefract pieces may count as the earliest coins struck in the name of Charles II. The castle still held out after the death of Charles I. Accordingly the governor placed upon the siege pieces the legend CAROLUS SECUNDUS, or CAROL II, etc., and on the other side POST MORTEM PATRIS PRO FILIO.

In artistic merit the coinage of Charles I is only inferior to that of the earlier Tudor sovereigns. This king, whose taste in art is well known, employed upon his money several engravers of distinguished merit. Among these were Thomas Rawlings and Nicholas Briot. The latter had first been engaged at the French mint, and while there had invented several improved methods of striking coins; but finding no appreciation of his talents he came to England, and was at once employed by Charles. Rawlings was for a long time engraver at the Tower mint, and on the outbreak of the civil war he removed with the mint to Oxford. While there he executed the famous *Oxford Crown*. The coin, though it does not differ materially from the crowns of Charles I of the Declaration type, shows, behind the figure of the king on horseback, a view of the city of Oxford, in which the fortifications and some of the chief buildings, notably Magdalen tower, are very clearly portrayed.

NOTES ON THE STANDISH BARRY THREE PENCE.

MR. HENRY PHILLIPS, JR., furnishes to the "*Museum*," some notes on the Standish



Barry three-pence. The *Journal* for January, 1881, had an article on this piece, by Dr. Woodward, giving a brief account of Col. Barry, beyond what is mentioned below, with a cut, for the use of which we were indebted to Mr. S. S. Crosby, by whose kindness we again reproduce it. It will be seen that the coin bears the date



July 4, 1790, at which time Col. Barry was about 27 years old. In referring to this date, Mr. Phillips says:—

It cannot be ascertained that any special celebration was held on that date. According to *Scharf's Chronicles of Baltimore* (p. 247, edit. 1874), on the prospect of a war with France, in 1798, the "Sans Culotte" (a military organization) changed its name to that of "The Baltimore Independent Blues," and one Standish Barry was appointed lieutenant. In the Baltimore directories, from 1796 to 1824, the name of Standish Barry occurs as a clock and watchmaker, merchant, silversmith, grocer, sugar refiner, etc. There may have been several persons of that name.

In the collection of autographs of Mr. Robert C. Davis, of Philadelphia, there is a document dated January 27th, 1825, signed, "Standish Barry, Sheriff of Baltimore county." It is not possible to say whether this is the same person or not. In the Baltimore directory for 1867-8 the name of Standish Barry, currier, is found. The name seems to have been a rather common one in that locality, but it cannot be ascertained that any one of unusual prominence ever bore it. None of the Baltimore papers for the month of July, 1790, mentions any one of that name, or any special event

worthy of commemoration in a silver coin. It is supposed, therefore, that the piece is merely the result of Fourth of July patriotism. This token is exceedingly scarce, a good specimen being valued from \$25 upwards.

Dr. Woodward, in our article mentioned above, identifies the Lieutenant of the "Independent Blues," with the gentleman who struck this piece, and we should infer from his remarks that while Col. Barry may not have possessed "unusual prominence," he was a well known citizen.

ROMAN COINS FOUND IN CHINA.

THE telegraph reported early in December, 1885, a find of Roman coins, in the inland Province of Shansi, China; at first this statement was received with incredulity, but so far as we have seen, it has not been contradicted. An English newspaper has attempted in quite an interesting way to account plausibly for their presence in this distant region.

THE coins now reported to be discovered are said to be those of thirteen emperors, who flourished between the era of Tiberius and that of Aurelian. Now, Tiberius began to reign in the fourteenth year of the Christian era, whilst Aurelian fell by the hand of Mucapor two hundred and sixty-one years later. Undoubtedly in so long an interval there was abundance of time for many coins to be struck, and a great deal of hoarding to be done. In those miserable two centuries and a half, Rome and the Romans had to suffer the tyranny of Caligula, and Domitian, and Claudius, and Nero, and Galba, and Otho, and Vitellius, and to hope for better things under the comparatively decent rule of Vespasian, Titus, Nerva, Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, and Marcus Aurelius. Commodus, Pertinax, Caracalla, Elagabalus, and a dozen others all "flourished," little to the benefit of their people, in the space over which the Shansi "find" is reported to extend. Most of them struck coins and medals to gratify their vanity or to please the sycophants who surrounded them. But some of these historical memorials of men famous or infamous are either unknown or so rare that collectors will, no doubt, remain in a pleasing condition of suspense until the latest "discovery" assumes a more material form than it has done as yet. The chief difficulty which presents itself in accepting the news is that China is one of the regions to which the Roman arms never penetrated, and which in all likelihood no Roman of the period referred to ever saw. The traces of the great Italian conquerors appear in many unsuspected quarters. Coins carried by the Varangians as part of their pay, or by the amber traders as the price of their costly wares, often turn up in Scandinavia and Russia. In the lonely plains of Northern Africa the Arab stands in amaze at the fluted columns and deftly carved capitals which tell that Numidia and Mauritania were, in happier days, provinces of the empire. In Britain we cannot long lose sight of the people who taught us the rudiments of civilization. Their great walls, their sonorous tongue, and the remains of their sumptuous villas and manifold altars meet us at every turn, or strike the ear in the speech of our people. The ploughman turns up their graves as he drives his furrow, and the navvy is every now and again unearthing some graceful jar which contains the treasure hidden only too effectually from the eyes of the barbarian invader long ages ago. Even in the deserts of Asia, though there the material Roman did not reach, the Mongol hordes talk of Turkey as "Roum," and among the Berbers of Algeria and Morocco, Europe bears the name of this most wonderful of cities.

But China was never a Roman province. No Roman army ever touched its soil. Even the Roman geographers had but the dimmest notions of that portion of the country of which a Venetian of the Middle Ages was the first to give us any accurate account. It is open to question whether Ptolemy referred to the Chinese when he speaks of the "Sinae," though evidently the writer who succeeded him, and who copied him, had no doubt as to the identity of the two. Strabo has something to say of the Sares, and the classic poets of the Augustan age continually refer to a country

which can be no other than China, though their ignorance is conveniently cloaked by the vague manner in which they place it somewhere to the east of Central Asia. Pliny and Mela become more circumstantial, and Ammianus Marcellinus is so evidently writing of what he had gained some light upon, that Lassen and Reinaud rather hastily conclude that he had obtained some information regarding the Great Wall. But there is no ground for believing that either the Romans or the Greeks—who had crossed Asia to India—had anything but a hazy idea of the position of the Chinese Empire. In the Armenian history it is called *Zemia*, and is characterized as noted for the production of silk, the opulence of the natives, and their love of peace above all the other nations of the earth. It is, therefore, sufficiently clear that though the actual acquaintance of the Romans with China was still as little as before, the geographers and historians of the empire were acquiring more knowledge of the subject. Nor is it altogether wonderful that they should do so. In the year 286—thirteen years after the death of Aurelian—*Tiridates*, a *protégé* of Diocletian, was invested with the sovereignty of Armenia, and proceeded forthwith to drive the Persians out of that province. Among the time-serving chiefs who flocked to his standard was *Mamgo*, "a Scythian," whose horde had, a few years before, encamped on the borders of the Chinese Empire. Thence, having incurred the displeasure of his master, *Mamgo* had fled to the banks of the *Oxus*, and implored the protection of the ferocious *Sapor*. The Emperor of China demanded the fugitive, and the Persian monarch only escaped a war with his powerful neighbor by sending his guest into the honorable exile where *Tiridates* found him. The Chinese Emperor who thus claimed a Roman ally as his subject was *Vou-ti*, the first sovereign of the seventh dynasty. His empire then extended so far beyond its present limits that he had habitual relations with *Fergana*, a province of *Sogdiana*. In those days the Chinese kept a garrison at *Kashgar*, which province in our own times has so often changed hands, and one of their generals, about the time of *Trajan* had marched as far west as the *Caspian Sea*. It is therefore quite likely that this exclusive people came in contact with the Romans, if indeed they did not, as has been affirmed on inconclusive evidence, receive an embassy from them during the reign of the Emperor *Vou-ti*.

Here at last we should seem to be getting upon the track of the Roman coins, always, of course, admitting that the find is a veritable one. Thirteen years after *Aurelian's* death the two great nations of the East and of the West came, in all likelihood, in contact with each other, either through friendly ambassadors, or by means of the intermediaries of the Persians. The latter people had naturally ample opportunities for obtaining specimens of the Roman coins, and, except on the supposition that the specimens found in the Province of *Shansi*—which is contiguous to that of *Pe-che-lee*, in which *Pekin* is situated—were collected as curiosities, it is hard to see how the purse of any private individual could contain specimens of the mintage of thirteen emperors, whose careers extended over two hundred and sixty years. The chances, therefore, are that they were sent as part of an ambassadorial gift, or carried eastward by some Mongol or Persian plunderer, who to his native avarice added something in the shape of enlightened curiosity. How they came to the place where they have been found it is scarcely worth speculating. In the turmoils of the Chinese Empire there have been a thousand opportunities for sack, theft, or mishap, any one of which would account for a box of barbarian money being buried until the too-long-delayed season for unearthing it might arrive to the robber or to the hoarder. To the dreamer fond of indulging in the strain of *Sir Thomas Browne* over the Roman burial urn, a pretty romance of love and war, or of commerce and murder, might be woven out of the wondering Chinaman digging up, eleven hundred years after they were buried, the gifts brought by the envoys of *Diocletian* to the court of the dread ruler of the East. Or, if this explanation is built on too frail an historical basis, we must not forget that, though the Romans were not themselves great traders, they did business with people who dealt with the uttermost ends of the earth, and exchanged commodities with merchants whose countries they scarcely knew even by name. The *Carthaginians*, and after their fall the *Uticans*, bore many a precious bale "across the *Libyan brine*," and many a Roman voluptuary looked to the *Palmyran* caravans which defiled in the

capital of Zenobia for the perfumes in which he steeped his locks. In the final disruption of the empire, wild tribesmen, who had dealings with tribesmen still wilder, poured in to share in the sack of the wealthy cities of Italy and Asia Minor, or to glut their vengeance for the cruelties and oppressions which they had endured at the hands of the mistress of the Western World. Hence, it need not be an inscrutable mystery — allowing that the coins were not sent in the manner which we have indicated as possible — for the hoard now disinterred in inner China to have in time reached its final destination.

THE SIAMESE PORCELAIN MONEY.

MR. HENRY PHILLIPS, while on a visit to Copenhagen, examined the collection of Dr. Vilhelm Bergsøe, which is remarkably rich in this so called coinage, having hundreds of specimens, round, hexagonal, octagonal, etc. They bear various curious devices, dragons, birds, and other objects, having no counterparts in the heavens or the earth, and about nine hundred varieties are known. It seems that the bullet-money being unsuited to the requirements of the gambling table, of which the Siamese are especially fond, and which is (or was) encouraged by the government, permission was granted to their proprietors to use special counters of *porcelain*, glass or lead, of various shapes or inscriptions. These "rapidly became a favorite medium of exchange, and filled so well a long felt want of small money, that the circulation went much beyond its legal sphere." Counterfeiting, naturally, soon took place, and the currency was suppressed in 1871. The inscriptions give the name of the Hong, the value of the piece, some favorite motto or classical quotation, etc.

COPPER MONEY OF THE HAIDA INDIANS.

AMONG various tribes of Indians on the coast of British Columbia and Southern Alaska, particularly the Haida Indians of Queen Charlotte's Islands, a copperplate currency is used. These plates vary little in shape, but range in size from one and one-half inches to three feet in length. They are made of pure native copper, which is found on Copper River, near the junction of Alaska and British Columbia. A piece of the virgin metal is first heated and then hammered out, between two stones, until it is reduced to a plate of the required thinness, when it is cut into the conventional hatchet-head form. The majority of these pieces are ornamented with a T-shaped groove, which is formed in this wise: Some hard material (probably copper) made in the form of a T, is laid on a smooth stone. The sheet of copper is then heated, until soft enough to bend, and being laid over this T, is hammered until it takes the form of the T, being raised on one side and grooved on the other. Many of these coppers are painted or engraved with symbolical or totemic devices. One is illustrated in *The Museum*, which shows the outline of a specimen of about two feet in length, having raised ornamentation on the upper portion, made to represent an Indian basket. Specimens are found from five inches to two feet in length. The value varies according to the size, one of two feet long representing about \$500. Sixteen years ago one of these pieces was worth fifty native three-cornered blankets.

Of late years these Indians have purchased rolled sheet copper in Victoria, B. C., which they cut without difficulty into pieces to suit themselves, but the value of such pieces is not more than half of those which have been beaten into shape in the ancient manner. Occasionally they resort to a species of counterfeiting by purchasing the rolled copper and beating it on rough stones and then painting it to resemble the ancient money.

The wealth of a Haida Indian is estimated by the number of coppers he possesses. One old chief, a few years ago, owned twenty-five or thirty of the old Copper River

beaten ones, which he valued at several thousand dollars. When a wealthy Indian dies, it is customary to carve the number of coppers he accumulated during life on his mortuary column, and, in some instances, the pieces themselves are nailed to the grave-posts.

The above article is compiled from a contribution to the magazine mentioned, by Mr. James Deans. The reference to a T shaped groove in this money reminds the reader of the large metal plates of that form, occasionally mentioned in our pages, and which have been supposed to be of possible Aztec origin. It would be interesting to discover what connection, if any, existed between these coins.

THE MINT CABINET.

Editors of the Journal:

THE appropriation made annually for the increase of the Mint Cabinet, is a matter to which we trust the new Director of the Mint will give his attention and ask for a large increase. If we remember rightly, this appropriation is never over \$300. It ought to be greatly increased, and for many reasons. The Government does not possess a perfect set of its regular issues; not unfrequently a sale of importance takes place when the catalogue in describing some rare piece mentions as one of its attractions to the collector, the fact that the Mint Cabinet does not possess an impression. Then again the *lacunae* in the matter of pattern pieces, proofs of experimental dies and similar work are lamentable; and this suggests another matter, concerning which we shall have something to say in passing. As an instance, we mention lots 420 and 421 in the Chapmans' recent sale, two Half Dimes, 1859 and 1860, doubtless mules, but the motive for striking which is a mystery. The first of these has not the words United States of America; the other bears *stars*, and appears to have come from the San Francisco Mint. The catalogue says, "The Cabinet of the U. S. Mint does not contain either of these pieces." The pieces sold for \$10 each. In the same catalogue (lot 711) were three impressions in *copper*, of the Longacre patterns of 1859, '60 and '61 Double Eagles, concerning which it is stated "they are not in the Cabinet of the U. S. Mint." The set brought *sixty dollars* in the sale, or what would have been their face value, if struck in *gold* instead of copper! Now, assuming these statements to be correct, and we know of no reason to doubt them, such a state of things is simply disgraceful. Whose fault is it? There ought to be some one who should be responsible for this neglect, and who should be recompensed for it.

Now, several questions arise. What would it have cost the Government to have preserved one or more of each of these? What was their cost to the Mint compared with what they brought? What has the Government to show for its outlay? How did these specimens get into the market? *Who reaped the benefit?* No doubt it is altogether too late now to ascertain some of the answers to these questions, but they are somewhat suggestive; and another one, more interesting still to the purchaser of these pieces having a total intrinsic value of a dime or two, on which he paid such an enormous advance, is, what security has he that others may not turn up next week, if these got out, nobody knows how? Were we selfish or resentful, we should regret this latter deficiency less than the other, because the provisions of the United States authorities that incorporated Numismatic Societies shall have such patterns supplied them on certain conditions, have been more persistently and unreasonably—not merely ignored but *defied*, over and over again by the officials to whom applications from such societies have been made in the past. These requests have been simply pigeon-holed, or refused, for reasons better known to others than ourselves, but which can be readily surmised by one who observes the "fancy" prices such pieces realize, not merely in the instances cited above, but whenever by hook or crook, they get into an auction room. Had the rule been complied with, the Cabinets of the Boston,

the American (New York), and the Philadelphia Societies would have been far more complete and attractive than now, in this direction. We trust that the various societies who have the right to apply for and receive these pieces, will exercise it, and test the matter.

Aside from the issues of the Government, the Cabinet might properly contain the dies of the National Medals struck in France before the Mint was established, but which are, we are informed, still on the other side of the water. If they are our National property, as we believe they are, they should be in the possession of our own Government. Then, again, there are a number of medals which relate to our National history and our early Colonial days, struck abroad, but of which none are to be found in the Mint Cabinet, and one at least of which, we remember, was unknown to the Mint authorities until attention was called to it in the *Journal*; even then the existence of such a medal was doubted. We refer to the Diplomatic Medal, so called. The quiet composure with which the investigations made and the information given by the *Journal* were ignored and the credit assumed by others, was hardly less than sublime. The history of the dies of the Preble Medal is another case in point, showing how little value was formerly attached to the preservation of such early contributions to our Numismatic history. These dies, it will be remembered, were found "knocking about" the Navy Department, where they had long been used as paper weights. This was of course not the fault of the Curator of the Mint Cabinet, the formation of which was not begun till 1838. Dr. Patterson, then Director of the Mint, at once placed it under the intelligent supervision and watchful care of the late Mr. W. E. Dubois. Ten years ago it had acquired nearly seven thousand coins and medals. It is interesting to note that several of the most valuable pieces in this collection were rescued from the melting pot, or from old pieces sent for recoinage, by the careful scrutiny of Mr. Dubois,—among which we may mention the Brasher Doubloon, so-called, one of the very rarest of the early experimental pieces.

It is of course difficult to draw the line in forming such a collection, between what is necessary and desirable, and what is not. We do not desire to see an accumulation of miscellaneous pieces, medals, coins, tokens, etc., but we believe that everything pertaining to our national coinage should be carefully gathered and preserved, before it is too late: that the early Colonial and State issues, the so-called Washington pieces, the coinage struck abroad for any portion of what is now included in the National domain, the early Medals which relate to America,—French, English, Dutch, etc., should be regarded as absolute necessities. A good beginning has already been made in several of these directions, but the limited appropriation prevents a rapid growth, and one or two purchases of the greater rarities would leave but little in any one year for other additions. After these, a historic cabinet should be systematically gathered, showing the development of the numismatic art from the rude beginnings of the remotest times, through the period of the golden age of Grecian art, the decline and debasement of the Roman imperial mintage, the mediæval issues, including some of the bracteates of Eastern Europe, the skeattæ and stycae of the early Saxon kings, as well as the enormous silver pieces of Germany, the medals and coins of the *renaissance*, down to modern times, when mere mechanical skill in manipulation and labor-saving machinery have apparently displaced beauty and artistic taste, not only in our own Mint, but in those abroad as well. The curious coins of the Orient,—India, Siam, China, no less than the old Bactrian and other similar issues, which are but collateral branches of the genealogical line of descent or altogether independent developments of the art of minting, should have a place in sufficient quantity to be of value for study. We can hope for nothing like the magnificent collections of the British Museum for a long time to come, if ever; but a cabinet formed on the plan suggested, with more regard for systematic arrangement than for the special interest which may attach to any special coin, would be gathered with comparatively little labor, and ought to be accessible to our mint designers, as well as to others interested in such matters. Some parts of this plan have already been undertaken, but it will require more than \$300 per annum to carry it out.

CAXTON.

GREEK NAMES ON COINS.

Editors of the Journal of Numismatics:

IN the October number of the *Journal*, I notice some fair and rather complimentary criticism of the descriptions of the Greek coins in the collection of the late J. E. Bidwell, and of the orthography of four proper nouns, the correctness of which is questioned; on this point I would like to say a few words. The first, Dioscurii with final double i, is an error I have thoughtlessly followed for years, and am glad to be corrected; the second (that Hygea should contain an i after g) is not an error, as either is correct, for in Smith's Classical Dictionary three forms, Hygiea, Hygea, Hygia, are given; you say further, "Korinth for Corinth is neither Greek nor English, and rather forced, when Ptolemaeus instead of Ptolemaios passes;" in Korinth, I have simply employed the Greek K instead of the Roman C, commencing the word with the same letter as the original, which is in full, Korinthos, and the kappa is phonetically more correct. On all the coins of the city down to the latest period, the extremely ancient koppa is placed beneath the Pegasus on the reverse, which letter after the Archaic era was rendered by kappa; in Ptolemaeus, instead of the English form Ptolemy, which does not give the construction of the word, I have used the Greek form with the Latin ending, as in the above mentioned authority, and as has been employed by the authors of the important work now progressing, the Catalogue of the Greek Coins in the British Museum. The numismatists of Europe are now using only the Greek names in speaking of Grecian deities and personages, and have entirely abandoned the Roman corruptions or equivalents, but many are employing the Latin terminations and the Roman names of places, which are anomalies that I hope will be abandoned. We should endeavor to give the exact rendering of the original language, avoiding the changes of other peoples; this will make it far easier for a person commencing the study, to recognize the coins by their legends from the descriptions in numismatic works. The Romans distorted many of the Greek words out of all semblance to the original, as, for instance, Ulysses for Odusseus, usually written, when used in English, Odysseus.

Philadelphia, 12 mo. 28, 1885.

SAMUEL HUDSON CHAPMAN.

We willingly print Mr. Chapman's note as to the spelling of some words in his late Catalogue. We are glad to observe that he agrees substantially with the *Journal*. Dioscurii he admits is wrong. It is as true that *Korinth* is neither Greek nor English, as it is that the Greek word Korinthos begins with kappa as he observes. We raise no objection to the Greek spelling if the compiler prefers it, and he would be perfectly right in using it, but let us have one or the other, and not a mixture of each: but how is K "phonetically more correct"? Is there any difference in the *sound* of C or K in this case? The old letter Koppa was probably nearer our Q than our K as an equivalent.

The same comment applies to the spelling of the Greek Ptolemaios. In describing English coins English names should be used. For Roman coinage the Latin names of persons, deities, etc., should be employed, and for Greek coins, by preference the original Greek words or names, represented as closely as possible by Roman letters; if not Greek, then English, for English readers, but *not* Latin, nor mongrel. What we object to in such a catalogue is the lack of uniformity, and the intermingling of Latin, Greek, and words which are neither Latin, Greek, nor English. The rule we approve is now generally followed by cataloguers here as well as abroad, as Mr. Chapman mentions, and he himself, if we are not mistaken, was one of the first to take so laudable a step, and should receive the thanks of all scholarly numismatists for so doing. Dr. Woodward, Mr. Frossard, Mr. Low, and our good friends the Chapmans, do not now speak of Minerva when Pallas Athene is meant; they say Herakles when they allude to the Greek demigod identified with the Roman Hercules, and so on; with Mr. Chapman's concluding words touching this matter we entirely agree.

It only remains to speak of Hygiea; we do not dispute the various spellings of "Hygea" as given by Smith and quoted by Mr. C., nor did we say there was an *error* there; we suggested removing one i from *Dioscurii* and putting it into "Hygea," which would have been more in accordance not only with the original Greek but the custom adopted in the catalogue under discussion. Hygea may even be good English, but we doubt it. The i is used in most if not all the English derivatives from the Greek root—Hygiene, etc. The iota is found in the Greek obsolete root *ΥΓΙΗΣ*, in *Ἰγία*, the Attic, and also in *Ἰγίη*, the corresponding Ionic form, of the name of the goddess, and in every Greek derivative from the word, we believe without an exception. The form without the iota after gamma, is "low Greek," and was never used in Attic; (see Pierson, Lobeck, or Porson). Speaking frankly, we think if Mr. Chapman had criticised *us* for not asking him to put in two i's instead of one, he would have had a stronger case against us. We appreciate thoroughly the care with which not only his catalogues but the later ones of all our dealers are prepared, especially in this very matter for which we have before complimented Mr. Chapman, recognizing it as a long step in advance, and we have no wish to make captious criticisms in any comments we may make upon them.

"DAREICS."

MR. JOHN NICHOLLS, in a volume of personal recollections, says: "I was informed by the late Warren Hastings, that while he was Governor-General of Bengal, he sent as a present to the directors of the East India Company 172 dareics, which had been found in an earthen pot on the bank of a river in the province of Benares. The dareic is a gold coin of the ancient Persian Emperor, Darius, and having on its reverse an archer.

"In allusion to this reverse, Agesilaus, King of Sparta, said that he had been driven out of Asia by 30,000 archers, by which expression he meant that he had been forced to relinquish his expedition by the efforts of those orators in the republics of Greece who had been bribed by Persian money. Perhaps the dareic is the most rare gold coin that has come down to us from ancient times. There is one in the British Museum, and, I believe, there is another in the collection of coins belonging to the King of France. I never heard of but one more, and I forget in whose collection it exists. Mr. Hastings told me that when he sent those dareics to the court of directors, he considered himself as making a most magnificent present to his masters that he might ever have it in his power to send them. Judge of his surprise when he found, on his arrival in England, that these dareics had all been sent to the melting-pot! I do not know the names of the directors of that year, but they were fortunate in not having been tried for this act by a jury of antiquarians."

TURKISH PAPER MONEY.

THE following item, in reference to Turkish Paper Money, we find in an exchange:—

IN the collection of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia is a set of Turkish paper money, which is known to be genuine, presented to the Society several years ago. They are particularly valuable, because bank notes are not now in circulation in that country, the Government having been obliged to stop their circulation some time ago, owing to many forgeries.

The reason assigned above appears plausible, and may to some extent be true, but an attempt to introduce paper money at Beirut, Syria, through the Ottoman Bank, was unsuccessful from lack of popular confidence in the credit of the Government. The merchants who received it passed it to their *employés*; but the latter went immediately to the bank to exchange it for solid money, which became such an annoyance that its issue was discontinued.

ANCIENT COINS FOUND IN THE EAST.

SOME time before the announcement of the find of Roman coins in China, referred to on another page, Dr. Morris, of La Grange, Ky., in a personal note to one of the Publishing Committee of the *Journal*, happened to mention the curious fact of similar finds in many places in the East India possessions of the British Government, as showing the extent of the influence of the old Roman imperial power, and quoted the statement of an English officer made twenty-five years or more ago, who said that quantities of early Roman coinage including gold, had been and continued to be found in the extreme East. On the banks of a river in Malabar, in the Deccan, the Southern Mahratta country, Cuddapoor, Nellore, and other places in Southern India, they had been exhumed "by the bushel." This is probably a strong statement, but the fact that these coins were found at such remote places seems undisputed, and the mere matter of quantity is of little consequence.

J. C.

TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

May 8. A monthly meeting was held this day. The President being absent, Mr. Crosby was chosen to take the chair. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. Mr. Crosby made inquiry as to the number of dollars of 1804 of the various issues, and as to the differences between them. The Society adjourned at 4.30 P. M.

June 12. A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. The President announced a donation from Mr. Henry Phillips, Jr., of Philadelphia, of a photograph of a medal presented to him by the Accademia Fisio-medico-Statistica of Milan, Italy. The Society adjourned at 4.20 P. M.

Oct. 9. A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. The President announced various donations, viz. several medals from Mr. George H. Lovett of New York, a parcel of medals from Messrs. W. H. Warner & Brother of Philadelphia, and a single medal from Mr. C. B. Bovier of Westfield, Mass.; for all these the thanks of the Society were voted. The President showed a good specimen of the crown of the Commonwealth of England. The Society adjourned at 4.45 P. M.

WM. S. APPLETON, *Secretary*.

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

A REGULAR meeting of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society was held at the Society's room, New York University Building, on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 1885, Vice-President Parish presiding. The Executive Committee presented their report, and recommended the election of James Minor Lincoln, Frank Temple Reamer, and Thomas Vincent Hall as *Resident Members*; Hon. Carlos Carranza, William Talbot Ready of London, and Patterson DuBois of Philadelphia as *Corresponding Members*; and Hon. James P. Kimball of Washington, D. C., as an *Honorary Member*. The death of Resident Member Lieut. Commander Henry H. Gorringer was announced. Various acceptances of membership were received.

The Curator reported a number of donations to his cabinets, among which was a fine collection of one hundred and forty-one pieces, Washington Medals, from President Parish. A letter was read from James Kirkwood, of Chefoo, China, accompanied by donations of Corean silver coins and a set of Corean and Japanese Postage Stamps; a gift was also received for the Library, from A. J. Boucher, of Montreal, of a book

entitled "Reglement de la Confrérie de l'Adoration perpetuelle du S. Sacrement et de la Bonne Mort." This book is the first issued in Montreal, where it was printed in 1776 by M. Fleury Masphelet, a learned French printer, who came to Montreal from Philadelphia the same year, and who, with one C. Berger, established the first printing office in that city. The special thanks of the Society were voted to Messrs. Kirkwood and Boucher for their valuable donations.

Mr. Douglass exhibited a number of specimens from his cabinets, of objects of stone, etc., including an Indian tubular pipe, of greenstone, from Ashland, Kentucky; arrow points and other small objects of extremely fine workmanship, found at Camp Thomas, Arizona; a banner stone of granite from Kentucky; several cards of selected specimens of arrow heads made of chalcedony from the west coast of Florida; a pipe bowl of sandstone, representing a human head with ear ornaments and queue, dug up near Coolville, Ohio, and other objects of a similar character; also a gold gorget $2\frac{1}{2}$ in long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. broad, found near Fort Bassinger, Florida, composed of gold, silver, and copper. It is supposed to have been made from gold from the Peruvian images brought to Florida by the Spaniards. The thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Douglass for his interesting and instructive exhibit.

These minutes being approved, on motion adjourned.

WM. POILLON, *Secretary*.

THE NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA.

A STATED meeting of the Society was held on the evening of December 3, 1885, President Brinton in the chair. Mr. John R. Baker read by appointment a paper entitled "Minute Lore—A Pack of Cards," in which he adverted to the origin of playing-cards as having taken place in the remote East, and traced the manner in which they were carried into the various countries of the West, and in the course of the address he exhibited a pack of cards, such as were introduced into Europe in the fifteenth century, and explained the significance of their various symbolical devices. Mr. Baker also exhibited several other interesting packs of ancient cards. A communication was read in reference to Chinese playing-cards, stating that the devices on those used by the Cantonese illustrate one of their historical romances. A communication was read in reference to the theory of Mr. J. P. McLean, employed by the Bureau of Ethnology, that the Great Serpent Mound, of Adams County, Ohio, which has recently been examined by him, is very likely not a serpent at all, but only the exaggerated tail of the rude representation of a lizard. The President stated that he had visited and carefully examined the Great Serpent Mound about a year ago. In view of the results of his investigations, he could not agree with Mr. McLean's opinion. The sinuous portion is clearly the body of a serpent, not the exaggerated tail of a reptile; no example of an equally disproportionate member can be quoted from the emblematic mounds of Wisconsin. The portions alleged to represent the body and head bear only a forced analogy to any reptilian form. Mr. Phillips read a communication in reference to the coinage of Pahang, a small State in the Malay peninsula, where, although gold nuggets abound, the medium of exchange is a tin coinage, somewhat like an old-fashioned inkstand.

The Curator of Antiquities announced the discovery of some alleged amber beads in Indian graves in Lancaster County, by Professor Hiller of Conestoga, this being, if correct, the first find of amber beads in the United States. The President stated that true amber had been found in Mexico. A large funeral urn and an urn about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, from the Huhnen-Graben, of Northeastern Prussia, were exhibited, together with some fragments of bone which were found in the larger urn. Mr. Barber exhibited a circular piece of pasteboard issued as currency by the city of Leyden in 1574, during the celebrated siege by the Spaniards.

This being the evening appointed for the election of officers, the following were chosen to serve for the year 1886: *President*, Daniel G. Brinton, M. D.; *Vice-Presidents*, Edwin W. Lehman, Lewis A. Scott, John R. Baker; *Corresponding Secretary*

and Treasurer, Henry Phillips, Jr.; *Recording Secretary*, Stewart Culin; *Historiographer*, Charles Henry Hart; *Curator of Numismatics*, Robert Coulton Davis; *Curator of Antiquities*, Edwin Atlee Barber; *Librarian*, Thomas Heckley.

NEW CANADIAN COINS.

From the Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal.

NEW coins or varieties, heretofore unknown, are always coming to light, and collectors of any special series must needs be constantly on the alert to keep their collections in their chosen departments abreast of the times. Even in the oldest and best worked series something new or a change in the order of classification is often accidentally discovered. We need not fear then that the ground of numismatic research is anything like exhausted. Nay, rather in some directions it is hardly broken. In the Canadian department a number of novelties have made their appearance during the past year, and some things more ancient have come under my notice. These I shall from time to time enumerate as I may have space and opportunity.

THE BLAKELY TOKEN.

The first that I shall mention is a token that a little over a year ago was found circulating to a limited extent in some of the Nova Scotian outports. It was only six months since, that a Nova Scotian collector called my attention to the coin, which may thus be described:—

Obv. Ex. 1882. A banded female head, to the left, surrounded with thirteen stars; on the band is the word LIBERTY.

Rev. BLAKELY & CO^S | GREAT DRY | SALT GOODS | WAREHOUSE | HALIFAX -N. S-
| CO^R GRANVILLE AND DUKE ST. Brass. Size 27 m.

Blakely & Co. were a retail branch of the wholesale dry goods firm of Davidson & Craighton which failed towards the beginning of 1883. These tokens were issued as advertisement cards, but why the word "salt" should appear thereon I am at a loss to know, except that it may have got there by mistake. The expression Dry Goods or Drapery warehouse as it is known in Great Britain, we can understand, but "Dry Salt goods" is a new term.* The appearance of the head of Liberty, similar to that on the old copper cent issued from the United States Mint previous to 1857, and to the present gold coinage, would lead us to infer that the token was struck in New York with a stock die, in imitation of a ten-dollar gold piece for obverse. The coins must have been smuggled into the Province, or there may be much looseness in the management of the Halifax custom-house to permit their importation, as the law against their issue is very strict. This coin may prove a fruitful subject for discussion to American numismatists of the future. Such questions may be argued as "Did Nova Scotia form one of the United States in 1882," or "Was there a strong desire of the people of that Province for annexation," or the argument might be that the independence feeling ran high in the Province in those times; whereas, the token was only an advertising card struck from a stock die (that is, one ready made) for the sake of cheapness.

THE NICKLAUS TOKEN.

Another coin lately coming under my notice, is the Nicklaus token, issued at Berlin. I am unable to give any account of its issue or of its rarity, as the only specimen known to me is in the possession of the Rev. J. M. Goodwillie, of Newmarket, Ont. The design of the coin is simple lettering.

Obv. NICKLAUS HOTEL | BERLIN | ONT.

Rev. GOOD FOR | 5 CENTS. Copper. Size 19 m.

Many of the Hotel keepers in the United States use such tokens in giving change over the bar, to induce customers to return. This is the only one, with the

* Can this have any reference to the English term generally? If this formed a part of their business, such a word would not be out of place. ED. JOUR.

exception of some indented specimens, issued in Canada. It was probably struck in New York.

THE CENT OF 1884.

In January of 1884, an order was sent by the Canadian Government to the Royal Mint for 2,500,000 cents, the issue of 1882 having all been put into circulation. The repairs and additions to the Mint, that had been going on for the past two years, having been complete, this coinage was struck there. Hence we find the H, the mark of Ralph Heaton & Sons, Birmingham Mint, wanting. Many specimens are not so well struck up as those by the Messrs. Heaton.

R. W. McLACHLAN.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

NEW BOOKS ON NUMISMATICS.

MR. CHARLES VON ERNST, of Vienna, has just published a well-arranged and valuable work on coins, medals and tokens relating to mines and mining, illustrated with sixty-two handsome reproductions of pieces referred to in the text, of which there are described in all one hundred and fifteen. Another interesting work has also appeared from the pen of Leo F. Kuncze, O.S.B., Professor in Martinsberg, near Raab, in Ungarn, on the subject of Consecration Money.

WATERLOO MEDAL.

MR. ISAAC MYER of Philadelphia has privately published a few copies of an essay on the Waterloo Medal of Pistrucci, which he read before the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of that city some years ago. The volume is handsomely printed, and contains some very fine illustrations.

THE PLACE OF OVID'S EXILE.

THROUGH coins of Kustendje, twenty of which have been presented lately to the city of Rome by Mr. Bruto Amante, it has been discovered that the town was once called Tomi, and is the place where the poet Ovid found exile from Rome so bitter. They were discovered by Mr. Remus Opreanu, and bear on one side a winged figure of Jupiter, with the legend, "*Metropolis Ponton Tomeos*," and on the other a portrait of a Roman emperor. Gordian, Caracalla, Geta Autocrator, Maximin, and Constantine the Great are recorded on these pieces.

COIN SALES.

W. E. WOODWARD'S SALES.

SALE No. Seventy-eight, as mentioned in the last number of the *Journal*, occurred at the rooms of Bangs & Co., New York, Sept. 15, 16, 17; this, like the last, was mainly from the collection of Mr. J. Colvin Randall, and included the remainder of his finest specimens, a selection second only to the preceding. We quote a few prices. *Dollars*.—1794, from the Wight Collection, \$45.50; '97, very fine, 11.50; 1836, fair, 6.10; '54, fine, 5.10; '78, Standard, Morgan's original design, 5.10. *Half Dollars*.—1794, 8.25; '95, uncirculated, 5.25; '97, very good, 30. *Quarter Dollars*.—1807, extremely fine, 9; '22, very fine, 4.60; '53, without arrow points, 10.50. *Half Dime*.—1794, splendid, uncir., 5.90. Gold coins, though sold for less than the average rates at the Randall Sale, brought excellent prices, especially the rarer pieces. *Eagles*.—1797, very fine, 29.50; '98, 31; another variety, 25.75. *Half Eagles*.—1795, rev. large eagle, 35; '97, fifteen stars, 49. *Quarter Eagles*.—1796, without stars, 14; '96, with stars, extra f., 40; 1806, five stars facing, 18. Gold proof set, 1883, 43.50. Proof sets, as has been remarked in our accounts of all recent sales, sold at low figures, but at better prices than have lately prevailed. Minor proof sets as usual sold very high. The Cents were of trifling importance, but the few that were noticeable for quality brought large prices. An uncirculated 1827, 5; '28, same condition, 12; '32, unc., 4 75; another, at the same price. The uncirculated red Cents in the 40's and 50's brought large prices. Some Political Tokens and a number of rare Store Cards sold fairly well, as did a variety of ancient Greek and Roman coins. Foreign copper coins, many thousands of which were offered, of most ordinary description, went off at low figures; on the other hand, a few Canadian pieces including a variety of Communicants' Tokens, brought prices running from 2.30 to 8. Vexator Canadensis, 2 50, more than double its fair value. The sale was on the whole a marked success, fully maintaining the reputation of the series in its results.

Sale Seventy-nine, Sept. 18, comprised a collection of Curios, Early American Paper Money, Postage and Revenue Stamps, and a variety of Mexican and Oriental specimens; the collection was the property of Harlow E. Woodward, and the most noticeable feature was the excellent prices realized for early United States Envelopes.

Sale Eighty. This like Seventy-seven and Seventy-eight was in a great measure made up from the collection and the stock of Mr. Randall, supplementing the fine collection of Mr. A. W. Matthews of Lowell; we note a few prices only. A fine collection of copperheads made by Mr. Levick was announced for the sale, but just before it took place U. S. detectives swooped down on the Boston dealers and went through their stocks, appropriating whatever they seemed to prefer, and stating that the trade in these tokens was illegal, and rendered them liable to seizure; under these circumstances Mr. Woodward thought it proper to withdraw from sale this whole department. Many orders were received, and had the sale taken place, these interesting pieces would all have brought unusual prices. The American Silver Series showed a moderate falling off in prices, but it must be borne in mind that this being the third gleaning of the Randall stock, though of high quality, was not equal to the two preceding sales from the same. The Dollar of 1836 sold for \$7.80; '39, perforation filled, 18; '54, very fine, 3.60; '55, very fine, struck proof, 5.50; another, nearly as fine, 3. Half Dollar of 1797, considerably rubbed, 19; 1802, very fine, 7.50. *Quarter Dollars*.—1796, v. fine, 6; 1807, one of the best, 5; '53, no arrow heads, 7. *Dimes*.—1796, fine, 2.70; '98, fine, 3.20; 1800, v. f., 5; '02, barely cir., 7.60; '04, v. good, 5. *Half Dimes*.—1794, proof, 9.10; '96, brilliant, 19; '97, fifteen stars, 5; do., sixteen stars, 8; 1802, fair, 40; '05, brilliant, unc., 26. *Three Cent pieces*.—1864 to 1873, 45c. to \$1, average say 70c. The gold coins, of which the collection comprised a good assortment, sold well. *Eagles*.—10.50 to 36 each. *Half Eagles*.—5.50 to 9. The latter amount was paid for the old type of 1834. Quarter Eagles, from 3 to 40.50, the last price was paid for Mr. Randall's 1797, believed to be the finest existing example. Several ancient Greek and Roman pieces sold at good prices. A Double Ducat of Ferdinand and Isabella, 10; Memorial of Nicolas d'Flue, a Swiss hermit and patriot, 11. American proof sets brought about the usual recent rates: 1857, 26; '58, 26.50; '64, 10.25; '78, 5. A large assortment of lots, catalogued as for dealers, consisting of minor coins and Cents and Half Cents, sold at an average far above any similar selections that have been offered; they were from Mr. Randall's stock, and of very superior quality. Washington pieces realized better prices than in some previous sales, a 1792 Cent, 32.50. Colonial and Early American brought fair prices: the Carolina Elephant piece of 1694, 24. A selection of the Dutch American Revolutionary Medals brought prices far below their former figures, but still considerably above what any have sold for, for some time past. An original medal of Charles Carroll of Carrollton was practically given away at 17.50. Some Canadian medals as usual sold high. We have no space for other quotations, but prices were well maintained throughout, especially for siege coins and large silver pieces.

Mr. Woodward announces for his Eighty-first Sale, a Library rich especially in Numismatics and Archaeology, together with a number of the rarest Early New England books, comprising Increase Mather's, Church's and Penhallow's Histories of the Indian Wars. Catalogues of this intensely interesting collection will be forwarded on application to Messrs. Bangs & Co., or to Mr. W. Several other interesting sales are projected, but the work is not sufficiently advanced to announce the precise date when they may be expected. No. Eighty-two will comprise Coins and Medals; Eighty-three Archaeological and Ethnological, and Eighty-four Stamps, Curios, and objects of Natural History, etc. All these will be duly announced in season, and catalogues forwarded to collectors.

CHAPMAN'S SALE.

THE MESSRS. Chapman sold in Philadelphia on the 15th and 16th ultimo, the collections of E. T. Wright, of the late C. R. Walker, and of another deceased collector. To these were added some fine pieces purchased by one of the Messrs. Chapman, while abroad last summer. The catalogue included some fine and interesting Ancient Greek and Roman pieces, with the usual variety of foreign and American coins and medals; there were 1264 lots, 59 pages, and the proceeds were about \$2700. Among the prices received we quote the following: Tetradrachm of Carthage (B. C. 350), Punic inscription, very rare and fine, said to surpass those in British Museum, etc., 36; a very rare tetradrachm of Myrina, Aeolis (B. C. 190 to 100), extra fine and r. 22; Tetradrachm of Alexander IV (B. C. 316 to 311), v. fine and r. 21; gold Octodrachm of Arsinoe II, of Egypt, very f. and extra r. 10.50; Tetradrachm of Nicomedes II of Bithynia, 15.25. "Gloriam Regni," five sous, v. fine and r. 20.50; Wood *Shilling*, 1723, *silver*, exc. rare, perforated, 10; some of the Franco-American Colonial jetons in copper sold well. Quarter eagle of 1796 without stars, v. f. 14.25; 50-Kran piece in gold, Siamese, size 18, and thick, v. f. and r., 16.25; *Dollars*, 1794, v. g. but plugged, 17; 1836, almost proof, 7.60; '38 br. pr., v. r. seldom offered, 62; '39 do. 36; '51, do. 50; 52 do. 50.50; '54, do. 20; '55, do. 17.25; '56 do. 14. Some of the Quarter Dollars brought excellent prices, 1796, v. f. and sharp, 12; 1823 over '22, as all are, and "of extreme rarity, probably not more than ten known, if that many," cost 55 some years ago, sold for 52.50. Dime of 1796, ex. f. cracked die, 9.25; '97, sixteen stars, ex. rare so fine, 12.25; the muled Half Dimes, lots 420, and 421, mentioned in an article by a correspondent on a previous page, limited to 10 each, were knocked down at that figure. Cent, Chain, 1793, obv. ex. f., rev. good, 19; 1823 perf. date, 10.60; Half Cent, 1852, bright red proof, 5.10; Quebec token, dies by Pingo (M. 125), *silver* proof and v. r., 7.60; Pattern Half Dollar, of 1839, *silver*, br. pr., only about seven known (bears head of Liberty to r. 13 stars in field, rev. eagle with olive branch and 3 arrows in talons, etc., milled edge, 30; three double eagle patterns in copper by Longacre, sold for 20 each. Fine impression of Pavilion of Edward the Black Prince, 1376, ex. r. gold, size 20, 32.25; Three-pound Piece of Charles I, gold, superb specimen, and ex. r. 121.50. A medal by Bovy of Major F. W. Matteson, bronze proof, thought to be unique, 21.50. Medal of James Stuart, Duke of York and Albany (See *Journal*, Jan. 1883, p. 61), in proof cond. and v. r., 6.25. We hope the Mint Cabinet bought this, as they certainly should own one. There were many other attractive pieces which realized good prices, and some valuable numismatic books which we should be glad to particularize, had we room. Stan. V. Henkels & Co. were the auctioneers, and the Messrs.

Chapman prepared the Catalogue. The attendance on the sale was quite gratifying. Several of the New York dealers were represented in person, as well as buyers from distant points, and altogether the results must have been well pleasing to those most interested.

FROSSARD'S SALE.

OCT. 16th, Messrs. Geo. Leavitt & Co. sold the collection of the Hon. Geo. M. Parsons, of Columbus, O., which was especially rich in Franco-American jetons, Colonials, and early American medals. It included also a number of rare foreign silver coins of large denominations, a very rare *quarter crown* "Gloriam Regni," of which Mr. Frossard says no impression is contained in the French National Cabinet. This was limited at a starting bid of \$325. The catalogue, 32 pages, prepared by Mr. Frossard, contained 508 lots. The sale was very successful. We should like to quote prices of this very attractive sale, but must forbear for lack of room. We believe a few priced catalogues on thick paper can still be obtained of Mr. Frossard.

PAST AND COMING SALES.

SEVERAL other sales, some of which had more than usual interest, have taken place in the last quarter, but we must content ourselves with merely mentioning them. Mr. H. G. Sampson sold the Wiswell collection, about 1600 lots, extending over three days near the close of October. Mr. Haseltine, Mr. H. P. Smith, and Mr. Steigerwalt also held sales of less extensive collections early in the quarter, and last month Mr. Proskey catalogued a cabinet of Confederate money, etc., with a few coins, for a sale at Bangs & Co. Mr. Frossard has a Bric-a-Brac sale announced, to occur this month, to be followed by a Coin sale. Mr. Low has in press a Catalogue of a Coin sale, having disposed of the Kingsford Collection as a whole.

EDITORIAL.

MR. LOW has compiled, and Messrs. Marvin & Son have published a neat pamphlet, showing the degrees of rarity, metals and places of striking of Papal coins.

IN a recent catalogue, Mr. Lyman H. Low of New York, says of the Dollar of 1804, "No authentic originals known." It is to be hoped that he will put in print his reasons for this positive statement, which certainly implies failure to use dies after their preparation. The pages of the *Journal* are open to him.

INTELLIGENCE has been received of the death of SAMUEL BIRCH, LL. D., a member of the British Society of Antiquaries, and for about twenty-five years keeper of the collection of Oriental, Mediaeval and British Antiquities in the British Museum. He had been connected with that institution for fifty years in various capacities, and his archaeological attainments, and especially his Oriental scholarship, had been widely recognized both in Europe and America.

THE members of the Legislature of Maine, past and present, are to hold a reunion shortly, and are to have a medal struck in honor of the occasion. It is to be in the form of a shield, of white metal and nickel plated, and about the size of a silver dollar. On the obverse is to be the coat-of-arms of the State, on the left of which WILLIAM KING, GOVERNOR, 1820; on the right, FREDERICK ROBIE, GOVERNOR, 1886; surmounting the arms is the word PROSPERITY. The reverse will bear on the field no device but the inscription, A MEMENTO OF THE FIRST REUNION OF THE LEGISLATURE OF MAINE, HELD AT AUGUSTA, JANUARY, 1866. These medals will be worn with distinguishing ribbons of three colors—red for the executive *ex-officers*, white for *ex-senators*, and blue for *ex-representatives*.

CURRENCY.

WHEN you see a counterfeit coin on the sidewalk pick it up. You are liable to arrest if you try to pass it.

MRS. Coyne has sued a man in Youngstown for damages for breach of promise. He didn't want Coyne, but she does.—*Pittsburgh Chronicle*.

"ONE of the dollars is a counterfeit, ma'am." "How can you tell?" "Simply by sounding. Just tap it and hear how clear the genuine sounds. That's tenor. Notice when I tap the other one. That's base."





FIG. 1.—AN EARLY PARTHIAN KING.



FIG. 2.—ARTAXERXES, PERSIAN KING.



FIG. 3.—SIMON BAR COCHAB.



FIG. 4.—ANTIMACHUS, INDIAN KING.



FIG. 5.—HIPPOSTRATUS, INDIAN KING.



FIG. 6.—HERAUS, KING OF THE SACÆ.

ORIENTAL COINS.